

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 160751
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 SSO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /052 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:JWHITING:AB
APPROVED BY AF:DBoLEN
D/HA:LARTHUR
AF/E:RSPOST

-----011505 112133Z /75

O 112116Z JUL 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 160751

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, ET

SUBJECT: ETHIOPIAN CHARGE RESIGNS POST

1. ETHIOPIAN CHARGE IN WASHINGTON, GHEBEYEHOU MEKBIB, TOD DEPT. JULY 11 HE HAS INFORMED HIS GOVERNMENT THAT EFFECTIVE JULY 8 HE RESIGNING HIS POST. MEKBIB, WHO HAD ADVISED DEPT. OFFICERS OF HIS INTENTIONS IN ADVANCE, HAS SAID PRIVATELY HE HAD BEEN DISMAYED AT SITUATION IN ETHIOPIA DURING HIS CONSULTATIONS THERE AND, WHILE INITIALLY A SUPPORTER OF GOALS OF REVOLUTION, FELT HE NO LONGER COULD SERVE EPMG.
2. MEKBIB DOES NOT PLAN TO MAKE PUBLIC STATEMENTS OR OTHERWISE CALL ATTENTION TO HIS DECISION. HE DOES NOT RPT NOT PLAN TO SEEK POLITICAL ASYLUM. HE HAS ESTABLISHED SELF IN HOME IN SURBURBAN POTOMAC, MARYLAND WHERE HE PLANS TO LIVE WHILE SEEKING ACADEMIC OR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 160751

EMPLOYMENT IN WASHINGTON AREA. HIS WIFE IS AN IBRD EMPLOYEE AND HIS FOUR CHILDREN ARE US-BORN.

3. IF EPMG ASKS ABOUT MEKBIB, EMBASSY SHOULD STATE THAT HE HAS INFORMED US OF DECISION TO RESIGN HIS POST AND OF HIS DESIRE TO CONTINUE TO RESIDE IN THE UNITED STATES.

4. DEPT. HAS NO DESIRE GENERATE PUBLICITY CONCERNING MEKBIB'S ACTION NOR GIVE EPMG ANY REASON TO BELIEVE PRESENCE IN US OF ETHIOPIAN DIPLOMATIC DEFECTORS IS INDICATION US PLOTTING AGAINST IT.

5. PRESS GUIDANCE IS AS FOLLOWS:

QUESTION: WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT ETHIOPIAN CHARGE MEKBIB'S BREAK WITH HIS GOVERNMENT?

ANSWER: MR. MEKBIB INFORMED THE DEPT. JULY 11 THAT HE HAD SUBMITTED HIS RESIGNATION TO HIS GOVERNMENT JULY 8. WE UNDERSTAND THAT HE PLANS TO REMAIN IN THE UNITED STATES, A MATTER WHICH IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE.

QUESTION: ISN'T THE US SHOWING ANTIPATHY TOWARDS THE LEFTIST REGIME IN ADDIS ABABA BY PERMITTING A NUMBER OF FORMER ETHIOPIAN DIPLOMATS TO HAVE ASYLUM HERE?

ANSWER: THE DECISIONS OF A NUMBER OF ETHIOPIAN OFFICIALS TO SEPARATE THEMSELVES FROM THEIR GOVERNMENT AND RE-ESTABLISH FORMER ACADEMIC OR PROFESSIONAL TIES IN THE US ARE THEIR PERSONAL DECISIONS. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT PERMITTING THESE INDIVIDUALS TO RESIDE IN THE US AS IMMIGRANTS OR FOR HUMANITARIAN REASONS SHOULD HAVE ANY CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 160751

ADVERSE EFFECT ON US-ETHIOPIAN RELATIONS. VANCE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PERSONNEL RESIGNATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 11-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE160751
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JWHITING:AB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770246-0616
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770770/aaaacixq.tel
Line Count: 95
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: fdce676d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1901410
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ETHIOPIAN CHARGE RESIGNS POST
TAGS: SREF, PDIP, ET, US, (MEKBIB, GHEBEYEOU)
To: ADDIS ABABA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/fdce676d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009